

RACIAL PROFILING DATA/2000

Agency: Linn Police Department

Population: 1,030

age 18 and over

KEY INDICATORS	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Am. Indian	Other
Stops	87	84	1	2	0	0	0
Searches	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Statewide population %	N/A	86.38	10.41	1.82	1.43	1.03	0.99
Local population %	N/A	98.35	0.58	0.78	1.17	0.97	0.10
Disparity index	N/A	0.98	1.97	2.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
Search rate	4.60	4.76	0.00	0.00	#Error	#Error	#Error

Notes:

Population figures are for those who are 18 years of age and older. Figures are from the 2000 Census (driving-age figures are not yet available).

Black, Asian, and American Indian includes persons of mixed race. Other race includes unknown race.

The disparity index = proportion of stops / proportion of population. A value of 1 represents no disparity; values greater than 1 indicate over-representation.

Search rate = (searches / stops) X 100.

#Error indicates zero denominator.

TRAFFIC STOP STATS		Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Am. Indian	Other
Violation leading to stop	Moving	43	41	0	2	0	0	0
	Equipment	42	41	1	0	0	0	0
	License	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Stop outcome	Citation	14	14	0	0	0	0	0
	Warning	73	70	1	2	0	0	0
Location of stop	Interstate hwy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	US hwy	66	63	1	2	0	0	0
	State hwy	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
	County road	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	City street	18	18	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driver gender	Male	64	61	1	2	0	0	0
	Female	23	23	0	0	0	0	0
Driver age	17 and under	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
	18-29	51	49	1	1	0	0	0
	30-39	13	12	0	1	0	0	0
	40 and over	13	13	0	0	0	0	0

SEARCH STATS		Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Am. Indian	Other
Probable cause/ authority to search	Consent	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Inventory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Drug/alcohol odor	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Incident to arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Plain view contraband	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Reasonable suspicion-weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Drug-dog alert	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
What searched	Driver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Car/property	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Search duration	0-15 minutes	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
	16-30 minutes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	31+ minutes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contra-band found	Drugs/alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Currency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Stolen property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Arrest charge	Outstanding warrant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Drug violation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Resist arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Offense against person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DWI/BAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Property offense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Agency response

According to your report, the City of Linn showed a disparity for two groups. Blacks received a disparity index of 1.97. Hispanics had a disparity index of 2.96. At face value, there might appear to be a problem. However, out of 87 stops, only one Black motorist was stopped and only two Hispanics. Due to the fact that these minority groups are under-represented in the local population, .58% and .78% respectively, any one member of such a group would represent a disparity if stopped. As you may know, U.S. 50 traverses the length of the City of Linn. This highway is often used as an alternate to I-70 for persons traveling to Kansas City and St. Louis, and as such, Linn receives a large amount of transient, non-local traffic that does not necessarily reflect the local population's makeup. In addition, there are several minority students who attend Linn State Technical College who were apparently not represented in your agency's local population percentage figure. To use such figures to show an apparent "disparity" would be an unjust application of statistics. To be labeled a problem department because of three traffic stops that were initiated after officers had developed probable cause to believe a traffic violation had occurred would be simply ludicrous. Yet an uninformed person could draw the conclusion that such a problem exists. Such statistics show the inherent weakness

in the current format in which racial profiling data are compiled. In addition to interstate highways and local colleges where the student body's composition may not be taken into account other factors are likewise ignored. When utilizing moving radar at night it is impossible to tell the race of the driver, not only because it's dark, but also because you're blinded by oncoming traffic's headlights. However, the form suggested by your office for compiling data does not contain a space for the time of stop. Failing to look at the big picture will subject law enforcement officers to unjust and undeserving scrutiny.